

80. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the cling characteristic comprises at least one characteristic selected from a group comprising:

joining the second graphic object to the first graphic object via a shortest distance where the origin of the second graphic object aligns and is coincident with a closest point of interest on the first graphic object,

sliding the second graphic object in alignment with the first graphic object as the pointing symbol is moved,

rotating the second graphic object about at least one of the points of interest on the first graphic object by manipulating the pointing symbol around the point,

positioning the second graphic object at an opposite side of the first graphic object when the pointing symbol traverses from one side to another of the first graphic object, and

positioning the second graphic object at a 180-degree rotation of the first graphic object at a specified perpendicular offset in a direction of the pointing symbol.

81. (New) The method of claim 79, further comprising unclinging the second graphic object from the first graphic object as the pointing symbol is moved a distance greater than a predetermined rejection tolerance away from the first graphic object.

REMARKS

Subsequent to the filing of a first Preliminary Amendment on November 4, 1998, and preliminary to a first Office Action in the above-identified reissue patent application, Applicants request entry of this second Preliminary Amendment.

On December 5, 2000, Examiner Seeley contacted the below-signed attorney by telephone and indicated that certain matters of form needed to be corrected:

- (1) The new claims 25-81 needed to be underlined in their entirety;
- (2) The status of all the claims in the application had to be recited; and
- (3) The locations in the specification where there was support for the claim amendments and the limitations of the new claims had to be identified.

With regard to (1) above, Applicants' attorney has underlined all the new claims, as indicated above.

With regard to (2) above, Applicants' attorney recites the status of all the claims as follows: claims 1, 3-4, 9-15, 17, 21-23 are unchanged, claims 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 18, 19, 20, and 24 are amended, and new claims 25-81 are added, as indicated above.

With regard to (3) above, Applicants' attorney provides the required information below:

- (a) The amendments made to claims 2, 5-8, 16, and 18-20, in deleting "maintaining" and replacing it with "dynamically updating" was made to eliminate an antecedent problem arising from an Amendment submitted in the original application Serial No. 08/436,158 on March 15, 1996. In that Amendment, the fourth step of claim 1 was amended to delete "maintaining" and replace it with "dynamically updating". However, claims 2, 5-8, 16, and 18-20, which are dependent on claim 1, were not amended at the same time. Consequently, the amendments were made in the Preliminary Amendment submitted in this reissue application. Support for the "dynamically updating" limitations can be at col. 2, line 34 and col. 8, line 37 of U.S. Patent No. 5,572,639.
- (b) The amendment made to claim 24, in deleting "geographic" and replacing it with "graphic" eliminates an antecedent problem. Claim 24 as originally filed included the "geographic" limitation, even though claim 24 uses "graphic environment" at other locations therein.
- (c) Support for the new claims is identified at the following locations in U.S. Patent No. 5,572,639:
 - (i) New claims 25-47: These claims mirror original claims 1-23, except that new claims 25-47 are in apparatus format, whereas original claims 1-23 are in method format. Consequently, support for new claims 25-47 can be found in U.S. Patent No. 5,572,639 at col. 11, line 42 through col. 14, line 13.
 - (ii) New claims 48-81: Support for these claims can be found in U.S. Patent No. 5,572,639 at col. 3, lines 48-49, col. 1, 56-64, and col. 5, line 20 through col. 6, line 7 (for claims 48 and 65); col. 5, lines 34-37 (for claims 49 and 66); col. 1, 63-64 (for claims 50 and 67); col. 1, 63-64 (for claims 51 and 68); col. 1, lines 63 through col. 2, line 2 (for claims 52 and 69); col. 2, 23-26 (for claims 53 and 70); col. 5, lines 46-51 (for claims 54 and 71); col. 5, lines 51-57 (for

claims 55 and 72); col. 6, lines 16-27 (for claims 56 and 73); col. 2, lines 23-27 (for claims 57 and 74); col. 2, lines 27-29 (for claims 58 and 75); col. 2 lines 32-35 (for claims 59 and 76); col. 14, lines 10-13 (for claims 60 and 77); col. 1, lines 59-63 (for claims 61 and 78), col. 5, lines 62-63 (for claims 62 and 79); col. 5, lines 66 through col. 6, line 3, col. 6, lines 29-31, col. 6, lines 64-66, col. 7, lines 2-5, and col. 7, lines 5-9 (for claims 63 and 80); and col. 6, lines 38-43 (for claims 64 and 81).

Should the Examiner identify minor matters that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call the Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian D. Gantt

By his attorneys,

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Date: December 8 2000

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